

Leather artist plies her trade at new Sanlitun Market.

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Sophie's has a variety of cushions, china ware, lamps, candles and ash-trays to offer.

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Ms. Prinett is Chinese Academy of Science's first overseas expert. She says, "In China, you can get more chances."

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A Message from the Mayor



The May spring sees the sun shining and flowers blossoming in Beijing. It is at this time of great vitality and hope *Beijing Today*, an English weekly published by *Beijing Youth Daily* and sponsored by the Information Office of the Beijing Municipal Government is launched. It is another step forward in the process of reform and opening to the outside, as well as advocacy for the city. I would like to take this opportunity to extend congratulations, on behalf of the Communist Party Standing Committee and the Municipal Government of Beijing, to this new venture.

Entering into the 21st century, Beijing is building an international metropolis. A good language environment is definitely a useful bridge for better international communication.

Great progress has been made in the city's reform, opening up and construction of socialist modernization in recent years. Social and political stability, together with a high speed of economic development, fast changes the city's appearance, eye's catching rises in people's living standards and an improved social and economic environment attracts foreign guests. In particular, due to its special position in the whole country, there are an in-

creasing number of foreign embassies, enterprises, business entities and institutions of study in the city. It is one of our responsibilities to introduce, in a comprehensive manner, the new achievements, appearance, development and progress of the city, as well as the traditional culture and history of several thousand years. Such a task is also a requirement of the development of the city.

The establishment of *Beijing Today* is a constructive response to this requirement. *Beijing Today* is the most direct and efficient channel for foreign friends, tourists and students in the city to know Beijing, to know China.

I strongly believe *Beijing Today* will win love both from foreigners and English practitioners in Beijing. Though it is a weekly paper at the very beginning, with successful development, the publishing cycle will be shortened. I am sure that sometime in the near future, *Beijing Today* will become a daily paper to better meet the requirements of its readers and of the times.

Beijing Today has a bright future. I wish *Beijing Today* will become a real bridge for Sino-foreign communications.

刘淇

Liu Qi
Mayor of Beijing

New Beijing Great Paper



Photo by Hu Jinxi

Beijing Today, the first English newspaper of Beijing sponsored by the Information Office of Beijing municipal administration and run by *Beijing Youth Daily*, has arrived. Yesterday a seminar was held on starting publication.

"It is a great thing for Beijing's publicity," said He Zhuoxin, vice director of the Publicity Office of the Municipal Party Committee.

Long Xinmin, vice secretary of Beijing Municipal Party Committee, said it is of great importance to establish a local

English newspaper. He hoped that this newspaper would help international friends learn about Beijing and meet the needs of foreigners who are resident or traveling in Beijing.

"A great number of international friends in Beijing make up a very valuable readership. In addition, *Beijing Today* will play an important role in building a language atmosphere essential for Beijing as an international metropolis," said Zhang Mao, vice mayor.

EDITOR: Liu Feng DESIGNER: Pang Lei

CITY FIRSTS AT HIGH-TECH FESTIVAL

By Yang Cheng

What's so special about the on-going Beijing International High-tech Industries Week 2001? Many "firsts" make it different:

—Trade Talks on Government Procurement Projects are being held for the first time. The talks, between United Nations procurement officials and representatives of Chinese enterprises are aimed at raising the level of the UN's annual procurement of Chinese commodities from the current 1% of the world total.

—More than 300 representatives of the world's top business entities are gathering in Beijing to present their ideas together with credit and finance experts.

—Bluetooth, one of the top 10 technologies of 2000, has become a major topic of the forum. The involvement of this telecom technology indicates a new trend of the new economic age.

—Individual participation is permitted in the exhibition this year. Wei Yongguang, 56, from Beijing, one of the 85 individual participants, brings his tasty coffee jam formula to his 3-metre booth.

The caption: a worker prepares an exhibition display.
By Jia Ting



Chinese, American Students Walk for Olympics

By Bai Xuesong / Xiao Rong

Walking into the chilly sea of Laolongtou in the city of Qinhuangdao, Hebei, at 10:30 am, Dawei Tenade (pinyin) of the USA and Chen Yuan of China then swam together, marking the beginning of a great journey.

In spite of the cold water, the 81 teachers and students from Beijing Physical University and Indiana University of the USA still showed great enthusiasm at the opening ceremony of the "Sino-US Walk the Great Wall and Support Beijing's Olympic Bid" activity.

Braver souls plunged into the sea, while others applauded and took photos. Tenade shivered. But Chen Yuan made light work of the icy water due to his winter hobby of outdoor swimming and cold water bathing.

Beginning at the Great Wall, the five-day hike traverses 80 kilometers, passing through

Huangyaguan, Jiangjungan and Taipingzhai.

The first day is easiest, and the following days will involve far rougher roads. The American teachers and students, however, looked confident as they have been undertaking climbing training since January this year.



The bid gains support.

Photo by Qiu Binbin



A participant in the activity prepares to overcome the first hurdle.

**Sorry, but this page
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**非常抱歉，
该版面内容丢失。**

China Cuts 634 Tariffs

By Ayi

China joined Laos, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India and the Republic of Korea as a signatory to the Bangkok Agreement, a regional trade liberalizing compact set up by the United Nations Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in 1975.

In signing up, China agrees to lower tariffs on 634 imported commodities, with the cuts ranging from 10 percent to 84 percent.

"China's participation will definitely bring new dynamics to the long existing agreement," said Zhang Yesui, China's assistant minister of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

China's participation will increase the total population covered by this agreement to 2.5 billion people. Pakistan, Vietnam, Myanmar and Nepal have also expressed an interest in the agreement, according to an ESCAP official.

Law amendment ends jvs lawlessness

By James Young

Beijing - On April 4, the Law on Chinese Foreign Equity Joint Ventures (CFEJV) was published.

Ma Yu, a senior researcher with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (MOFTEC) took part in revising the law. Ma says that the amendment is a major move on the part of China to prepare for its expected accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), after more than a decade of negotiations. Though only a few JVs obey the original law, this amendment will bring them under the umbrella of the law. By now, the country has seen the registration of 150,000 Chinese-foreign joint ventures.

Mr. Ma says the revision makes two major changes, which are set out as follows.

1: The original clause reads: The raw and semi-finished materials, fuels, parts and auxiliary equipment needed by the joint venture shall be first bought in China as far as possible, they can also be bought directly in the international market with foreign exchange raised by the joint venture itself.

The Revised Version allows the joint venture to make purchases within its approved scope of business in either the domestic or the international market. Mr. Ma explains that the original law encouraged JVs to favor the local market, but this clause violated WTO rules, and interfered in the JVs' business.

2: One of the original articles has been deleted. It read: The production and operation plan of a joint venture shall be reported to the competent department for the record and be executed in the form of an economic contract. Mr. Ma says this article was set down under the old, planned economy.



FORTUNE FORUM, A TOP SHOW

The annual Fortune Global Forum was held in Hong Kong on May. 8, 2001. It provides a forum for the world's business circles to discuss issues of common interest. The Forum in Hong Kong witnessed the participation of more than 700 people including chairmen, presidents and CEOs of more than 200 foreign consortiums and of 150 Hong Kong enterprises, heads of over 60 large Chinese companies, and more than

20 ministry-level officials from the Chinese mainland. More than 1,300 Chinese and foreign reporters are in Hong Kong to cover the Forum. The people on the screen, from the left Mickey Kantor, Former US Minister of Commerce and Trade Representative, Donald Tsang, Hong Kong Chief Secretary, Henry Paulson Jr, Chairman of Goldman Sachs.

(Xin Hua)

Beida Jade Bird: New Sohu Shareholder



Charles Zhang, CEO of SOHU

Sohu shares listed on the Nasdaq jumped 30% in mid April, averting the risk of the company losing its license tag. However, Sohu is looking increasingly less like an enterprise with investment potential. On April 24, Intel China sold its 3 million ordinary shares in Sohu to Beida Jade

Bird.

The Beida Jade Bird Group is one of the flagship companies established and owned by Beijing University. The company has two listed branch companies in the Shanghai Stock Exchange and another listed branch company in Hong Kong. The main business of the three branch companies involves software developmental research, design of IC chips, media service and cable network cooperation. Under the circumstances in which network shares do not look likely to further increase in value, the move by Beida Jade Bird seems questionable.

On April 5 the Ministry of Information Industry and the State Development Planning Commission issued a joint notice regarding the checking of cable construction projects in violation of the law.

The notice stipulates that without the approval of the Ministry of Information Industry, the State Development Planning Commission or an authorized unit, construction of built-in or joint construction of long-distance cable projects in any form should be stopped. Prices of cable TV conceptual shares of Beida and other enterprises fell after the issuing of the notice. Analysts say that Beida Jade Bird attracted the attention by way of buying shares in Sohu for the purpose of jacking up the share price.

First Enterprise Delisted

By Song Yan

The Zero-sum game ends in Chinese stock market with the first enterprise delisted.

Many people speculated that it was a warning sign that the Chinese authorities were about to beef up supervision of China's stock markets, when two months ago, one of the country's top economists, Wu Jinglian published an article criticizing what he described as China's gambling-house like Stock Market. The prediction turned out to be correct.

However on April 23, the Shanghai-based Narcissus Electrical Appliances, listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange, became the first company to be delisted in China since the China Stock Market was established 11 years ago. The Chinese Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) says the delisting is in line with Stock Market regulations, which aim to ensure the quality, and

healthy and stable development of the whole stock market.

Actually some delisting rules have always been in place, but unfortunately were never implemented in the market. For example, the "Enterprises Law in the People's Republic of China" issued on July 1, 1994 contains the following:

Situations

The stock administration department of the State Council suspends a company's stock exchange business when a listed enterprise is found to be in one or more of the following situations:

a. Not in the position to be listed due to the change of its total stock value and ratios of its shareholders. b. Failing to publicize its financial condition or falsifying its financial accounting statement. c. Conducting serious unlawful practice. d. Suffering losses for 3 consecutive years.

But the above-mentioned situations have long existed in

that every provincial or municipal authority tries to protect the interests of their limited listing companies. They prevent the pending delisting by investing, giving favored policies or even doctoring accounts. Knowing this, many investors would favor losing enterprises whose share prices have been put under PT (particular transfer), because they understand that the share prices would rise with the intervention of the local authorities. This was the case with the shares of PT Narcissus. Their value soared in the weeks following the company's delisting warning. It's A and B shares trading results reached a record high. An investor said, after buying a huge amount of PT Narcissus on April 13, he read about the possible delisting of a company in a newspaper of the day. But he did not believe it would be PT Narcissus.

Because of the price-rigging and market fraud cases, some feel that buying and selling stocks is a zero-sum game, that is, one must lose if the other wins. They believe it is a practice of speculating rather than investing.

Local Opposition

On the day of the delisting and the day after, four other PT enterprises were given six months grace. The Shanghai Stock Exchange declared that trading of these companies shares would also be terminated if they still failed to report a profit. Some officials of the Shanghai Stock Exchange said the move was beneficial to the healthy development of the market. But the CSRC faced strong objections from common investors, who are favored by the local authorities. They say that "the rule of the game" offered by the exchange and CSRC are contradictory, resulting in their great losses in buying PT narcissus shares. Thus nine PT narcissus shareholders are suing the CSRC in the Shanghai No. 1 Intermediate People's Court.

"The investors should undertake risks themselves," says Zhou Daojiong, former president of CSRC. "They are responsible for both profit-taking and losing." However, some lawyers argue that the law nevertheless supports the nine litigants.



Photo By Fan Xuedong

Ford Fights GM for China

By Ivy Zhang

The fight is on. And as the bell struck out across the auto world on April 23, it was announced that the first round in China has gone to Ford.

The Chinese government gave official approval to a contract between ChangAn Auto Group and Ford for their joint venture sedan project. It is Ford's first car plant in China.

Each party holds a 50% share, with an initial investment of US\$ 98 million. The first car is expected to roll off production lines in 2 years.

"We'll produce medium-sized and compact cars suitable for Chinese citizens," said Cheng

Meiwei, Chairman of Ford (China) at the opening ceremony. "We'll also heed the opinions of consumers in terms of pricing. If Chinese citizens think a car that costs 100,000 Yuan is unaffordable to them, we can consider producing cars at a lower cost."

At 100,000 Yuan, the new car will be a rival to the Sail brand launched by Shanghai General Motors. The battle between Ford and GM in China dates back to the mid '90s, when the two giants competed fiercely for government approval for the Shanghai plant.

GM won that round, sanctioned to set up a US\$1.5 billion Buick plant. Ford was only permitted to build factories manufacturing auto parts. In

1998, ChangAn Auto Group was granted approval to implement a joint venture project.

The agreement broke down with ChangAn's long-term partner Suzuki after the Chinese side alleged the Japanese side failed to introduce advanced technology. Ford (China) approached ChangAn and in 1999, the two sides signed the letter of intent.

As one of the top 500 most powerful industrial enterprises in China, ChangAn Group can now compete alongside China's three other auto bases.

"ChangAn and Ford share the same goals and our visions in other aspects are consistent," said Yin Jiaxu, ChangAn chairman.

City Makes 308 Million Yuan Spending Spree

By Jian Rong, Ayi

The third Government Purchasing Projects Fair, as part of the China Beijing New Hi-Tech Industry International Week and the International Science and Technology Fair, promises to break the bank,

with the purchasing amount to 308 million yuan, increasing by more than 100 million yuan on last year.

The Beijing Municipal Government released its municipal purchase list alongside district and county purchase lists on the third Government Purchasing Projects Fair today at the

Beijing International Conference Center. Purchasing items include: motor vehicles; computers and net-related products; air conditioners; office facilities, medical equipment, elevators; boilers employing advanced technology.

The biggest purchase is computers and net-related products, totaling 128 million yuan. The

products include PCs, net facilities, products for dotcom website construction, multimedia demonstration systems for education, service components, sub-level telecommunication exchangers, Internet service working stations.

Big ticket items include dairy cow facilities, valued more than 80 million yuan. Environmental regeneration and protection is the third biggest ticket, totaling 60 million yuan. Products include water saving, environmental protection and lighting products.

A further 50 million yuan will be spent on electric boilers, products and equipment related to replace the existing coal boilers. The purpose is to replace the vast number of outdated coal boilers used in cold winters in the city.

Last, but not least, 30 million yuan will be used for purchasing bi-fuel (petroleum/natural gas) driven vehicles for public transportation in the city.

Time/date: 9am-12noon and 1:30pm-3:30pm, May 11

Location: VIP Room 9-12, third floor, Beijing International Conference Center

Detailed Chinese-language purchase lists are available at the official website: <http://www.hightechbj.com/2001temp/qiatanhui/qth1-cg1.asp>

State Sells Off Silk Purses

By Jian Rong, Ayi

More than 100 resurrected state enterprises are up for grabs at the Beijing International Conference Center in Asian Olympic Village, north of Beijing on Saturday May 12.

China Huarong Assets Management Corporation (CHAMC) will display the 100-plus projects at the Financial Assets Trading Fair, on the third day of China Beijing New Hi-Tech Industry International Week, of which 44 projects successfully by Huarong will be prepared as the purses for customers.

With 10 billion capital yuan backing from the Ministry of Finance, China Huarong is the largest financial assets management corporation in China. Set up by the State Council, China Huarong represents a new type of financial institution whose assigned task is to ease the financial risks associated with the reform of ailing state enterprises. The company buys and manages bad credit from the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China(ICBC).

Running a business volume of more than 417 billion yuan, China Huarong is involved in the restructuring of more than 71,500 state owned enterprises (SOE).

The fair specializes in offering effective and totally new investment models for both domestic and overseas investors willing to participate in the dynamic restructuring of China's state enterprises. Models include share transfers, assets handovers, structural re-adjustments, mergers and acquisitions.

The 44 projects include 12 electronic and 12 machinery firms, 6 from the textile industry, 3 construction material firms, 3 medical and pharmaceutical firms, 3 mining and refining firms, 2 from automobile industry, 2 from light industry, and 1 chemical firm.

The debt ratios of these 44 enterprises have been reborn at around 30%-50%, with China Huarong guaranteeing investors a completely transparent picture of debt structure and relations, legal identity, property rights, debt guarantee deposits and investment valuation.

Time/date: 9 am-12 noon, 1:30pm-4:30pm, May 12

Location: VIP Room 9-12, third floor, Beijing International Conference Center

More Chinese-language information on the projects is available at: <http://www.hightechbj.com/2001temp/qiatanhui/cyzxghq.htm>, or <http://www.chamc.com.cn>



Photo by Jia Ting

"In China, You Can Get More Chances"

By Yang Xiao

This is Veronique Prinnet's feeling. She has been living in Beijing for four years. "You have great opportunities and free space here. You have your own office, computer, and other equipment you need. You have assistants and a team and enough money to carry out your plan. All of you have one goal to come together and work harder.

Ms. Prinnet, from France, is CAS's first overseas expert. She has studied in France and Canada. In 1997, she came to China to take up a postdoctoral position. Last year, she and her tutor, now a vice-minister of Science and Technology, undertook a research project.

The project, named "ANFAS", is a risk management system for flooding. "ANFAS" is a joint project between the E.U. and China. The

total cost of the project amounts to 4 million euros over the next 3 years.

Ms. Prinnet's 4-years experience in China has taught her something about Chinese ways. Like many Chinese, she goes to work every morning by bike. She dresses in Chinese clothes and shoes. In her leisure time, she likes to visit Beijing's hutongs. When I praised her for her spoken Chinese, she didn't say "Thank you!" as foreigners often do, but smiled depreciatingly and said "Oh no, it's not so good," in a typical Chinese way. She says she feels content here and has no plans to leave at all.

When asked why there are only a few foreign scientists working in China, she replied, "I think maybe they don't know about China. These days, we can have many opportunities. The working and living facilities are really good. I think in the future there will be more and more scientists working here."



Ms. Prinnet working for the project.

Photo by Chen Shuyi

More Benefits to Successful Foreign Bidders

By Ayi

Successful foreign companies that bid for construction of the China west-east natural gas pipeline will gain two more big-ticket preferential option rights.

The pipeline, a key project in China's efforts to develop its relatively impoverished western regions, will be 4,167 kilometers (2,604 miles) long and pass through nine provinces and autonomous regions, four of which are in western China.

Successful firms will gain rights to hold shares in the pipeline project and also cooperation rights with China's National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) to explore oil fields including Tarim Basin in Xinjiang and Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Basin, according to Ma Fucui, CNPC general manager.

By granting rights to successful bidders, China hopes to attract foreign funds for its construction of the pipeline that stretches from the Tarim area in Xinjiang Autonomous Region to Shanghai.

International bidding began in April, with 19 international companies participating. The final results will not be unveiled until June this year.

Construction will start no later than the second half of next year, and it will enter into commercial operation within two years. The natural gas fields open for bidding this time include the newly found Kara-2 gas field, proven the largest high-quality natural gas field in China with total deposits of more than 6.32 trillion cubic meters.

This find represents 19.4 percent of the total deposits CNPC has already detected. According to Ma, cooperation has already started in detecting new deposits in another gas field - Changqing oil-gas field, believed to contain even larger deposits for exploration than Kara-2.

CNPC has signed letters of intent for gas supplies, purchase and pipeline transfers with 33 clients. Preliminary estimates of consumption volumes top 320 billion cubic meters in 2005 and 460 cubic meters in 2007.

China Opens Its Door to Foreign Experts

By Yang Xiao

Lu Yongxiang, President of the Chinese Academy of Science (CAS) recently announced that the Academy will welcome and employ more foreign experts. Over the next 5 years, CAS will spend 100 million yuan on recruiting and employing about 500 overseas experts.

Last month, an official from the CAS news department told reporters that before Mr. Lu's announcement, there had been already a number of foreign experts working in CAS, including botanists, computer scientists and short term exchange scholars.

Officials of the Scientific Cadre Department of CAS are now working hard to recruit fine foreign experts. "China's scientific condition is developing. In some fields, China has won No.1 position in the world. Experts who want to work in China will feel free in their research fields.

They can get more chances as well," said one official of the Department.

According to one plan, one scientist can receive a competitive higher salary monthly and a compensation of US\$625 per month, alongside his or her research budget. He or she can also rent an apartment at a low price.



Department stores in downtown Beijing are facing increasing pressures in term of market shares and profits. Photo by Fan Jiwen

Dim Prospects for New Department Stores in Downtown Beijing

By Ayi

No more large scale department store will be allowed to be established within the second ring road in downtown Beijing. Rather, supermarkets and chain stores will be the major commercial entities to be encouraged for development, according to Lu Yan, Deputy Director of the Commercial Committee under the Beijing Municipal Government.

According to Mr. Lu, there is an oversupply of department stores in downtown Beijing, and most of them are facing great pressures in terms of profit earnings. As shown by a market survey conducted over the existing department stores and chain stores recently, only four department stores are listed in the top ten most profitable downtown ventures, with the remaining six being all chain stores. This shows a sharp decline from 100

percent the previous year. Besides, all those stores achieving a 50 percent or more increase in sales volume are chain stores.

Lu Yan says that supermarkets and chain stores will be the major types of commercial entities to be encouraged by the government. In its tenth Five Year Initiative for Commercial Development, the Municipal Government promised great efforts to be made in establishing and perfecting business facilities in residential communities. Around 400 commercial centers in this regard will be set up in the next few years. Principally, there will be at least one such commercial center in a residential community with a population between 10,000-30,000, and at least 1 km away from any other commercial center of the same type. The scale of such a commercial center should be around 5,000-15,000 square meters. The best

and most ideal structure of such a commercial center includes a medium-to-large scale comprehensive supermarket, a food and farm products free market, and a network of restaurants and shops. Meanwhile, the initiative also emphasizes that supermarkets should be scientifically laid out. A large scale supermarket over 5,000 square meters should be at least 4 kilometers away from any other of the same size or even bigger.

This does not mean that the government will not allow any department store to be set up in the downtown city, said Mr. Lu. Instead, large scale department stores can only be established in the nine designated city commercial centers or multi-functional purchasing centers. These designated centers are Xi Dan, Wang Fu Jing, Qian Men, Chao Yang Jian Guo Men, Ma Dian, Mu Xxi Yuan, Shuang Yu Shu, Da Zhong Si, and Cui Wei Gong Zhu Fen.



photo by Zhang Shuyi

Tibetan Buddha Seeks Chinese Teacher

by Zeng Pengyu/Ivy Zhang

A Tibetan living buddha in Beijing seeking for specialist medical treatment still has the school he founded in Ganzi county, Sichuan province, close to his heart.

Jiadeng Luorongxiangba, a Yellow Hat sect (Tsongkhapa) living buddha, opened the school out of his own expenses in Ganzi in 1994. He is currently in a Beijing hospital for myelitis, an inflammation of the spinal cord. But the school's affairs prey on his mind.

The buddha used 40,000 yuan of his own savings and 40,000 yuan borrowed from friends to set up the school. As news spread through the region, farmers came to donate money and some poor families even offered food or salt.

The number of students has increased from 138 to 222. Subjects include the Tibetan language, Tibetan mathematics, English and Tibetan medicine and Chinese language.

"It's always a problem teaching Chinese language in our school. So we are anxious to find an experienced instructor who can empower our children with the Chinese language."

"It will surely help our children to reach out and expand their horizons. However, the living conditions in our area are very difficult and I can't pay much for the teacher. Thus, I'd like to find a retired one who's willing to help us out. It would be best if he or she could work for a longer period of time."

To keep the school on track, the buddha even sold his own horse and operated a sales outlet in the downtown area of the county, trying to pay off debts while improving the living standard of the students.

Within three days of the buddha's wish being reported, 13,000 yuan was collected. Teachers called in to express their willingness to go to work in Ganzi.

"If possible, I can even cover my own travel expenses and I don't want to charge one penny for teaching Tibetan children," said Dong Yuan, a retired teacher with 30-plus years' experience,

Liang Yue, 27, brought in 1,000 yuan and said, "This money represents the good wishes of my family. We just want to help those children in need as much as possible."



Channel Swimmer Prepares for Plain Sailing

By Lu Jia

Swimming across the English Channel this summer will be slightly easier than his last swim, believes a Beijing Physical Education University teacher.

Zhang Jian, 37, said he expected his attempt to become the first Chinese to swim the Channel to be easier than his latest swim. On August 10, last year, Zhang took 50 hours, 22 minutes to swim the 123.58 kilometer long Bohai Strait. The first man to swim across

Bohai, he set a world record for the longest unaided cross-strait swim.

Chilly waters, rapid currents, buffeting waves and unpredictable weather changes make the 33.8 kilometer long English Channel one of the most difficult swimming challenges on earth. Of the more than 6,000 swimmers who have attempted it, 800 have succeeded. The oldest was 68, the youngest 11.

Zhang announced his new plan on the same day as he finished the Bohai Strait swim and began practicing swimming in cold water last October. Zhang flew to the United Kingdom, where he joined the British Channel Swimming Association and conducted an on-the-spot investigation.

Zhang will attempt to cross the channel July 28-August 2, when the water temperature should reach 16 centigrade and it will be comparatively easier to swim.



photo by Chen Yuyang

Securities Stepped up in Sanlitun

By Xiao Rong



photo by Jia Ting

Six 'electronic eyes' are being set up in the first week of May to watch Sanlitun Bar Street, so that bar lovers can enjoy themselves more freely and safely.

The advanced Electronic Monitoring System has been jointly established by Sanlitun Subdistrict Office and the local police station because of the long-standing security problems of Sanlitun Bar Street. Since the debut of the Bar Street in 1992, complaints from local residents about the noise, disorder, not to mention traffic congestion, have never stopped. To address these problems, Sanlitun Subdistrict Office has spent over 150,000 yuan on high tech equipment.

In the monitoring centre, there will be two policemen supervising the screens all day long. Another six policemen will patrol the street in turn.

As well as the six revolving cameras on the 600-metre-long street, special SOS devices have already been set up in each bar since February.

Although a first for the Sanlitun area, the monitoring system is not new in Beijing. Similar devices have already been introduced to certain areas of Chaoyang District, such as Jianguomenwai and Maizidian, according to local police.

With its close proximity to many foreign embassies in Beijing, the Sanlitun area has turned from a quiet community into one of the city's most famous cultural hotspots in the past eight years. While boosting the local economy, the thriving Sanlitun area has also brought such unwanted by-products as the disruption of the peaceful life of local residents. After receiving numerous complaints from local people, the municipal authorities finally made good on their promise to tear down the Sanlitun Clothing Market and the Auto Parts Street in December 2000.

As to the eventual fate of the Bar Street, a subject that has attracted the attention of many people, the Sanlitun Subdistrict Office said that it will not be shut down in the near future. However, a real estate development project concerning the prosperous Sanlitun area is under discussion by Fullink Corporation and local authorities.

Who will adopt me?

By Lu Jia

A wild camel strolls up and down lonely at Beijing Zoo.

Since March 19, when the Beijing Zoo declared that individuals and institutes could adopt certain animals, many animals have found new "families".

A number of individuals, companies and organizations have shown great interest in animal adoption. Within only one month, the zoo has handled over ten "adoptions" and many more are in progress. Among them, are some foreign-owned companies and international friends, says Yu Shufen, a clerk at the new animal adoption office of the Beijing Zoo.

The office walls are freshly painted and at the gate, several workers are busily installing electrical wires and lighting. On Yu's desk there is a large pile of documents, files and records. This special office set up at the end of March, after the zoo's administrative office, which was originally in charge of animal adoption, found it could not cope with the increasingly heavy workload.

Unfortunately, the range of animal species that people are keen to "adopt" is quite limited. Generally people prefer the "cuddlier" species, such as deer, rabbits, and monkeys. Of course, the rare and precious animals, like pandas, golden monkeys, and red-crested crane, are the most popular. However, few people pay attention to the more ferocious beasts such as tigers and leopards.

"There is a wild camel at our zoo," says Yu Shufen. "It is one of our most rare and precious wild animals, the only one of its kind in China. However, most people do not know much about wild camels, some have never even heard of them. So no one wants to adopt it."



photo by Yu Shaolan

Monitors Take Deep Breath

By Huang Jianhua / Lu Jia

The city environmental protection bureau and meteorological bureau have been making joint air quality forecasts since May 1. With air forecasts, just like regular weather forecasts, Beijingers can arrange their journey to avoid peak-hour contamination.

John, an international friend who lives in Beijing, asks three questions as the following: Is the air monitoring system scientific? Does the air monitoring reveal the present air quality accurately? Can the forecast meet people's modern needs?

Armed with these questions, "Beijing Youth Daily" reporter Huang Jianhua interviewed Pan Shuda, general engineer of the environmental protection bureau of Beijing.

Huang: How many air monitoring stations are there in Beijing? And is establishment of those stations in accordance with international standards?

Pan: Air monitoring stations began to be set up in 1983. At the end of 2000, there were 12 stations in Beijing. In addition, there is an air sanitation contrast station at Dingling. At the end of 2000, five more monitoring stations were built. In the future, some stations will be built in succession within the city proper of 1,040 square kilometers. The high density of stations will ensure accurate monitoring. Each station represents air quality not

only of a certain district, but also of a specific environment. For example, the station at Donsi represents a one-story house region of the old city proper; and the station at the Temple of Heaven represents commercial region. This method guarantees the sample's representativeness and diversity and the acquired data's accuracy.

Huang: What do you think of the suspicion that the number of heavy pollution days is small?

Pan: I think this doubt is completely unnecessary. Our air monitoring is operating at all times. The monitoring center collects data from the stations every five minutes, and automatically inputs data into high-speed computers to compute and analyze. In this process, the probability of artificial alteration is almost zero. As for results, the relevant branches have no reasons to falsify. Last winter, the monitoring center declared heavy pollution on three successive days.

During the IOC visit to Beijing, the monitoring center declared grade four pollution. I believe that everybody can see air quality by himself and nobody is able to conceal the fact.

Huang: How important is the air forecasting to ordinary people?

Pan: As the weather changes, it is hard to anticipate air quality. Relevant authorities have put a lot of energy into air forecasting. I believe, as monitoring scope is enlarged and computing modules mature, the forecast will become more accurate and its service will be expanded.

Request
For questions from readers about Beijing, we would like to give you detailed information. Just contact us.



picture by Lao Du

Accept Blame Then Resign

By the staff

On March, 27, Chongqing municipal authority declared a governmental decree. It stipulates that if, inside a year, there are two accidents in which more than 10 people die, or one accident with over 30 dead, the immediately responsible officials and their leaders on a higher level must resign.

This is the first time China has carried out an "accept the blame and resign" policy at provincial level with specific criteria on casualties.

Last September, Longgang district government in Shenzhen announced if officials fall short of working ability, or are guilty of improper conduct or through their own error bring about heavy losses, they must resign.

Some local authorities in Jiangsu, Hainan, and Jilin have also carried out similar systems.

On this topic, let us hear a variety of voices from different angles.

Mr. Carley, senior consultant in IT and Telecommunication

This is the wrong way to handle this. The best way to develop more accountability in a fair and equitable way is to develop a clear rule of law, draft the correct laws, apply them to all citizens and uniformly enforce them. That is the right way to go about this.

The specific criteria are ridiculous and arbitrary. Why a limited number of people? Isn't one life important? The issue is not how many accidents happen or how many people die. The real issue is this: the official must do everything reasonable to prevent circumstances where accidents can occur (by setting the right rules, policies and procedures and making sure they are followed). If it is found that they have

neglected their duty to protect the safety of anyone, then they must resign or be fired and then they must be personally held responsible to pay damages to the injured parties – all according to the law and an independent judiciary.

Official A (requests anonymity)

The official's resignation should be a kind of individual action out of one's own moral sense of blame, rather than a mandatory order. So it is not proper to compel officials to resign when serious accidents occur. In addition, such compulsory orders can put even greater pressure on most of the officials in charge of security. Sometimes it is not only one or two officials' responsibilities to prevent the occurrence of accidents. The low standard of living in China is another reason for various kinds of accidents. Take southwest Sichuan Province as an example, where peas-

ants have to cram into a limited space in a ship just in order to save 50 fen. In such an area, it is hard to ensure traffic or production safety just through local government's warning. Therefore, although it is advisable to urge officials concerned to attach great importance to safety, this simple administrative order is unreasonable.

Official B (requests anonymity)

In my personal view, the government official should take responsibility for people's life and safety. So resignation by officials who feel the blame is surely welcomed by the ordinary people. The mandatory order to compel officials to resign, however, is not necessary. If such kind of orders were carried out, then the government departments concerned would naturally put undue emphasis on safety while neglecting other fields. As a result, this can disrupt their daily work. What's more, in these days of a market economy, an official's ability cannot be estimated only according to quantitative standards. There should be a comprehensive system through which we can judge the overall achievements of government officials.

Jiang Zhouteng, college student

According to my reading, I find accidents happening in Chongqing have already exceeded the usual definition of "accepting the blame and resigning". In those accidents, what the immediate officials and their higher authorities should do is not to resign but to face being cashiered or punished by the law. In essence, "accepting the blame and resigning" is a moral problem. So appears the word "blame". "Blame" means morality. This is not any law or decree. It is a kind of spontaneous reaction when one's conscience is provoked.

In addition, "blame" should mainly come from the pressure of the public and media, not from the higher authorities. But in contemporary China, the powers of the public and media to supervise have not been strong enough to make officials feel the blame. They have been blocked by their circumstances. From the so-called "accepting the blame and resigning" system by Chongqing municipal administration, we can see it is still a governmental decree. That is to say, the pressure still comes from the higher, not lower. So it reflects the fact officials still take responsibility for the higher. In this case, the lower, for example, the public and media, does not play a significant role. Thus the real "accepting the blame and resigning" system has not been carried out.

SOUND ONCE MORE

"I flew over Chinese rivers and mountains but could not see specific landmarks, such as the Great Wall due to atmospheric haze. I've been to China before. I know the Great Wall and Yangtze River. I plan to travel to China again."

So said Dennis Tito, the world's first space tourist in the International Space Station, in a phone interview with China's Xinhua News Agency.



"A small step of Wang Zhizhi indicates a great leap forward for China's basketball. How far is from CBA to NBA?"

Beijing Youth Daily recently discussed in a commentary whether the CBA (China Basketball Association) can benefit from Wang Zhizhi's move to the NBA, the first such move by an Asian player.



"China's capital market will have much to do in the future. Foreign owned enterprises, joint ventures, privately and state owned enterprises will be treated equally. If qualified, they will be listed on the stock market," said Zhou Xiaochuan, President of the China Securities Regulatory Committee, when attending the first seminar of the Fortune Global Forum in Hong Kong.

By Xiao Rong

The revised draft of China's Marriage Law was finally passed by an overwhelming majority by the Standing Committee of the People's Congress on April 28 after several sessions of discussions.

The new law, which has made significant changes on several original provisions, has been the daily concern of many Chinese. They offer different views on the amendment below:

Ms. Sun Yuyun, Jingchao Development Corporation

The high rate of divorce nowadays is to a certain degree due to the phenomenon of illicit cohabitation with those who are not one's wife or husband.

These illegal actions are now prohibited according to the new law, which can absolutely protect those women whose husbands have had secret sex with their partners (widely known as "bao er nai" to Chinese).

Mr Zhao, university teacher

First, the current marriage law can only be a transitional law that needs to be

revised and supplemented in the future.

Secondly, in view of the traditional planned economy, marriage is the foundation of our society. Actually, in accordance with the current market economy, marriage should be a kind of contract between individuals. The amendments, however, try to solve marital problems by protecting the original social ties instead of per-

sonal relations, which cannot fit in with the needs of the market economy. Thirdly, in my personal view, I don't agree with the prohibition on illicit cohabitation. The punishment for bigamy is quite necessary, but it is much more difficult to define illicit cohabitation and even to investigate the various reasons of this phenomenon.

Mr. Yang, China Classification Society

As to compensation for the infringement of illicit cohabitation on the victim, I think it is not very easy to put into practice. First, the term "victim" is hard to define, because in a case of divorce both husband and wife can be victims. What's more, illicit cohabitation is a social problem which cannot be prevented simply by way of law. That's to say, the marriage law is not as all-powerful as most people would expect.

New Marriage Law: All-Powerful?

Consumers Opting for Foreign Products

By Shaohai

A survey into the shopping trends of major consumption groups in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou reveals that although consumers tend to have a sentimental preference for Chinese goods, they still choose foreign-made when it comes to purchasing high-tech goods.

For those foreign businessmen who are worried about their market share in China, the survey might set their minds at ease. In terms of planned consumption, US-made portable computers and mobile phones are the most desirable, though European made mobile phones are also popular. Japanese cameras and printers are without a rival and Japanese made TV sets are rated about the same in popularity as Chinese TV sets.

The survey asked consumers to make comparisons between Chinese and foreign goods. The result reveals that Chinese, Japanese and US products are all highly regarded by consumers. However, with the goods of country, there are certain perceived merits and demerits. The main advantages related to Chinese goods involve good service, as well as national pride, while the main superiorities perceived in foreign goods were related to function and quality.

The investigation also shows that Chinese people have different images of products from different countries. For instance, the salient features of US products are that they are seen to be scientifically advanced and considered 'luxury items'. The related advertising adds to this perception. High-tech and technological advances were rated higher than Japanese products, whose names stand second on the list; the salient features of Japanese quality products are that they are reliable, innovative and fashionable, and feature attractive designs. The only feature that stood out regarding people's perceptions of European made goods, was that they rate highly in terms of being environmentally friendly.

Chinese products are popular largely because of psy-

chological and sentimental factors. With regard to the specific quality and functions of Chinese products, they rate fairly low. Over one-third of the survey respondents said that they were proud to be using locally made products.

Consumers were also asked about their expected consumption trend in the next three years. Most said they would purchase mobile phones, household computers, printers and color TV sets; only a few said they intended to buy PDAs, microwave ovens and portable computers.

The survey touched on some other interesting topics. For instance, consumers tended to associate countries and regions with specific products and brands. When the United States was mentioned, 25.5% thought of computers and then automobiles. With regard to the brands, people would think of IBM (9.4%) and then Motorola (8.1%). When Japan was mentioned, 46% first thought of Japanese TV sets, while Matsushita (26.5%) and Sony (23.1%) led in regard to brands. When Europe was mentioned, the consumers would first think of Philips (8.6%) and Benz (8.1%).

The survey was conducted by the Shaohai Market Investigation Company. Those targeted were families with a monthly income of 2,500 yuan and above. The ages of those who could make decisions on the purchase of household electric appliances, such as color TV sets and computers, ranged from 18 to 55 years. Altogether 616 people were questioned in the three cities, 211 people in Beijing, 200 in Shanghai and 205 in Guangzhou. The sample distribution in terms of sex was: male 51%, female 49%; educational level: senior middle school students, polytechnic school students and below 50%, students of institutions of higher learning 27%, and graduates and above 23%.

The age breakdown was: 18-25 years old 25%, 26-35 years old 30%, 36-45 years old 22% and 46-55 years old 24%. Families of those surveyed in the three cities had an average income of 5,360 yuan.

picture by Lao Du



picture by Lao Du

From Master to Servant

By Lu Jia

Beijing natives do not like to enjoy the service of strangers who mainly come from the poor countryside any more, and they do not want to sit and see those strangers take money away in their hands either.

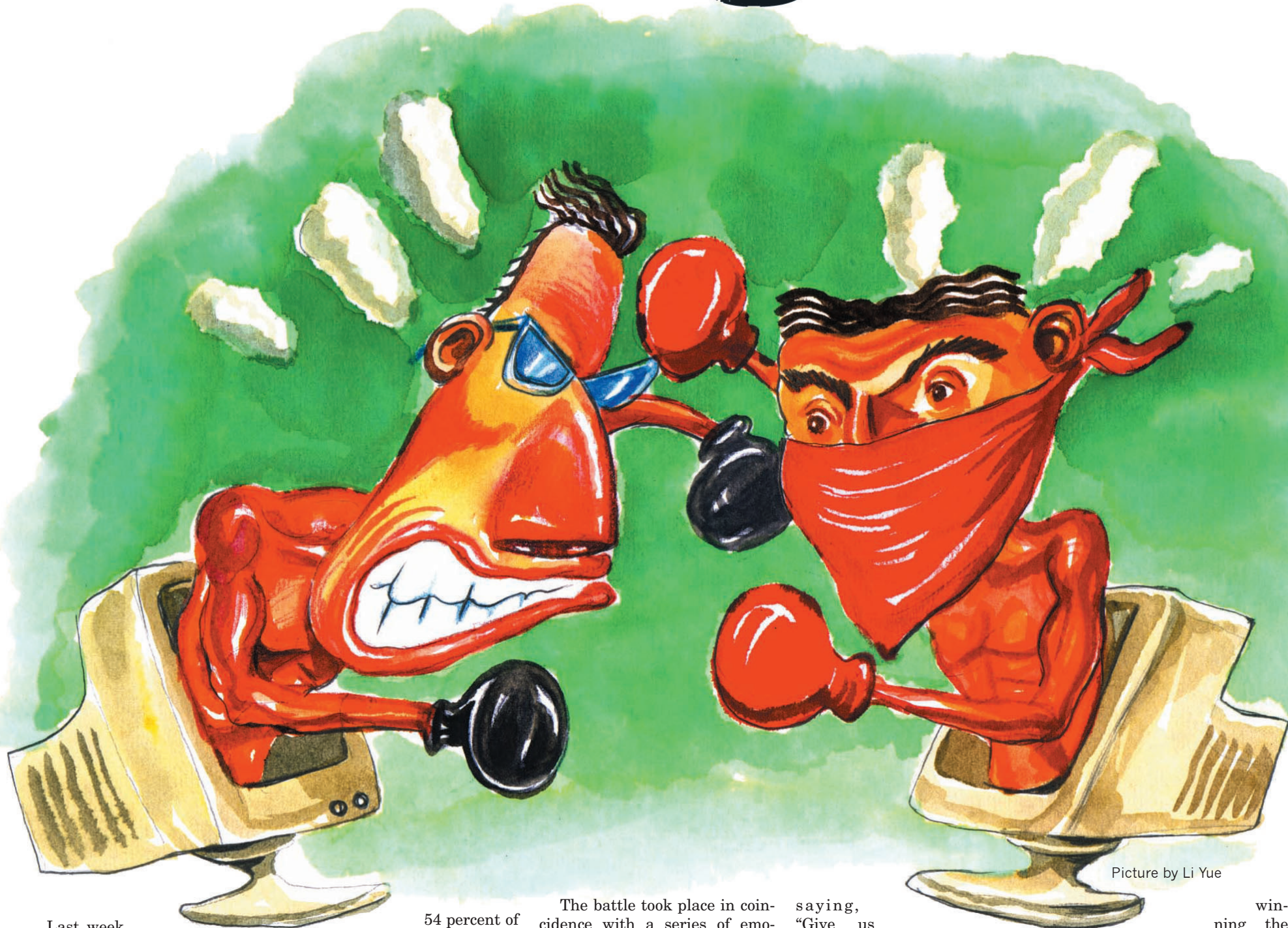
According to a recent survey by Beijing Statistics Bureau, compared with 1999, employment growth in Beijing concentrates in the social service sector in medical and health fields, sports and welfare projects in 2000.

Owing to the increasing investment in public utilities, bus and taxi employment grew 15,000, and 19,000 real estate jobs were added. By contrast, government and party-related jobs fell by 54,000.

Beijingers used to dislike social services work as they regarded it as too servile. For hundreds of years, emperors, lords and aristocrats ruled the roost in Beijing, the capital of the Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties. Beijingers typically enjoyed more privileges than people from other places.

Hackers Fly Flags

No matter what positions they may take, most people acknowledge the fact that the battle sounds a fresh alarm to the entire world about web security. This may be the only benefit that the cyber war has brought about so far.



Picture by Li Yue

Last week, the White House Historical Association received some e-mails asking a rather startling question: "Why do you have Chinese flags on your website?" Sure enough, when Web manager Bill Bushong took a look at the association's home page, he found, along with the pictures of Abraham Lincoln and George Washington, two red flags with yellow stars.

Hackers in Action

In the massive hacker attacks generated by the famous "Honker Union" of China, the White House, of course, has become the primary target. Other victims include some major governmental or military organizations and prominent private companies. People who visited a U.S. Navy website last Sunday were doubtless surprised to find themselves exhorted to a slogan criticizing USA. Those who logged on to a National Institute of Health site might have wondered why such a scientifically oriented page should ridicule America.

Rumor has it that at a recent meeting called by "Lion", the leader of the union, hackers were called on to attack U.S. websites to avenge the plane collision between the U.S. spy plane and a Chinese fighter on April 1, in which the Chinese pilot Lt. Wang Wei lost his life and his plane crashed. But some say the attacks were only retaliations against American hacker groups like "Poison Box" and "Prophet" who had allegedly pulled the trigger first. Nearly 14 percent of all hacker attacks that occurred around the world in April were targeted at Chinese websites, an official from China's Web security office was quoted as saying.

54 percent of the websites that were attacked were commercial, 12 percent were government sites and 19 percent were scientific and research sites.

On the hacked website of a travel agency, an animation of a flame rests next to a photo gallery featuring Wang Wei. "China Redhackers will beat down all the hegemonism of the world," reads the hacker's syntactically challenged message. "All the Chinese must be united and battle for honour of our homeland U.S.A. A Chinese flag waves atop another hacked site as patriotic music plays, while a message claims the attack to be "powered by the Honker Union" of China" hacking group.

Spear and Shield

Their primary weapons also include D(enial)O(f)f(S(ervice), in which a website receives a flood of requests, making it difficult for legitimate users to access the servers that make the site available.

The battle took place in coincidence with a series of emotionally significant dates for the Chinese. In a 7-day holiday starting from May 1, International Labor Day, May 4 is Youth Day and May 8 will be the second anniversary of the U.S. bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. Chinese hackers publicly announced that they had chosen this week for its string of important dates to step up their online attacks. A member of the Honker Union disclosed that on May 4 as many as 80,000 members participated in the first general attack.

American hackers have fought back just as quickly and fiercely. A website operated by a Chinese provincial government tourist group was marred with a threat to escalate attacks on Chinese government sites. "For every gov you do," the hackers taunted, "we will do 5 gov.cns," referring to the domain ending Chinese sites use. U.S. hackers have retaliated by defacing many Chinese sites. One U.S. hacker left a message on a Chinese government site

saying, "Give us our plane back."

Others are threatening to retaliate with denial-of-service attacks directed toward Chinese networks and e-mail viruses if the Chinese attacks continue to heat up. Meanwhile, the official Xinhua News Agency reported that U.S. hackers have defaced the websites of the provincial governments of Fujian, Guangdong and Beijing, Tsinghua and Xijiang Universities, and Samsung's and Daewoo Telecoms' Korean sites. Chinese experts point out that the American cyber attacks are "highly efficient and professional". According to sources in the IT industry, Internet experts admitted that some Chinese sites defaced by hackers were not fixed immediately, because of a lack of special technicians. Internet security experts had been asked to conduct 24-hour surveillance and Internet security companies were urged to provide aid and consultation to Internet users.

Winner or Loser?

Both sides have claimed to be

winning the battle, which is likely to soon come to an end, but it is commonly acknowledged that the Chinese hackers still see cyberspace as the most important battlefield in the fight to redress past humiliations. In an attempt to display their traditional patriotism, that has become more and more conspicuous over the past several years, they have set up a "record of merits". Through a series of cyber battles, they challenged foes from different countries when people of Chinese descent were abused in the Indonesian civil strife in 1998, when the Chinese embassy in Yugoslavia was "accidentally" bombed two years ago, when U. S. arms sales to Taiwan triggered their extreme anger again and again, even when Toshiba refused to compensate for the floppy disk defect.

Compared with Chinese hackers' evident sense of patriotism, their counterparts across the Pacific Ocean seem to be more concerned with Internet security. "So far, the attacks have been mainly limited to website defacements that are easily fixed," said Mike Assante, director of Intelligence for Vigilix, a security consultancy. The White House website has recovered from DOS attacks. The Chinese flags are gone, new security measures are in effect, and the White House Historical Association soon will be hiring hackers of its own - to see how good its new security system really is. "They changed the I. P. address, so all our recent attacks turned out to be in vain," complained Lion, master of the Honer Union of China.

All by Xiaochuan

Spectators' comments:

The 7-day holiday provides an ideal chance for cyber-citizens to get involved in the so-called "Cyber War"

According to surveys held by some media sites, over 80% of respondents support the Honkers' battle. "This is a downright righteous counterattack against those American hackers who challenged us first. They've got to pay for what they have done" says "Rookie". Many others see it as a great triumphant revenge for all the injustices that the United States have brought to the Chinese. "This is our deeply-felt mourning for the three martyrs who died in the brutal deliberate bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade. They can now rest in peace." "The Americans have stretched out their claws to our face. How dare they knock down our fighter plane above our sea and sell weapons to Taiwan. We just can't sit there not responding to their hegemony!"

Opposing opinions seem to be few, or maybe it's just that those people are reluctant to raise disputes over such issues. They believe that the hacks are unjustified and should not be related to patriotism in any way. "This is simply a violation of internet order, what good does it bring to people of either country?" Mr. Liang, a famous game programmer, gives his well-considered views, "the level of cyber security in China lags far behind other countries. People living in glass houses should not throw stones!"

No matter what positions they may take, most people acknowledge the fact that the battle sounds a fresh alarm to the entire world about web security. This may be the only benefit that the cyber war has brought about so far.

With the escalation of the cyber war, both sides have suffered high casualties. Meanwhile, some observers may find it quite strange that though the Honkers are considered to have a more politically oriented patriotism, their opponents have hacked more governmental websites than they did.

Reports of attacks from the two southern provinces of Fujian and Guangdong stand out. On the homepage of famous hacker group called "Poison Box", names of websites of Chinese universities, municipal governments and their departments, financing and security organizations and some E-commerce sites are listed as casualties of the group. Experts from Guangdong Public Security Bureau admitted that due to various technical reasons, Chinese sites are easily hacked into, and take longer to recover after the attack. Some major sites have taken "evasive actions" by simply closing themselves during the holiday.

In contrast, the Honkers' assaults are all-sided. Among the nine attacked websites listed by the Washington Post on April 13, several are privately owned. "Intelligent Direct", a professional geographic service provider, was defaced with a fluttering Chinese flag and a text message stating that "China has nuclear weapons". "Iplexmarin.com", an artistic service provider, received an additional gift apart from the usual flag and message -- a photo of pilot Wang Wei.

What happened to Gibson Research, the famous cyber security expert company, renowned for its secrecy and safety software, was even more ironic. They had to shut down their internet access after ram-paging Dos attacks.

But the Chinese Honkers may be a little disappointed to see that their targets have recovered quite rapidly.

News update: "Oh, they are so young!"

The Honker Union of China, the frontline troops in this hot cyber battle, held its first news briefing recently in an IRC chat room. They and the Eagles, another key participant who fought shoulder to shoulder with the Honker Union, together disclosed to the public their true identities.

Master of The Eagles, aged 30, owns an international diver's license and works in the IT industry. "Lion" is even much younger. Barely 21 years old, he is already the commanding officer of "the Honker Union of China" the biggest hacker group in the country. Bkbl, Lion's chief spokesman, also aged 21, is still a university student. Neither of them has ever received any specialized education in the area of computer technology. Personal interest, as they emphasized, was their only motive to set up the Union.

Like their leaders, registered members of the Honkers' Union, with an average age of 23, are much younger than most would expect. 65% of them are still studying in college.

They proudly call themselves Honkers, or "red hackers", to distinguish from the ones across the ocean they are fighting. Nobody could tell, or even notice, why their name coincides with an American slang meaning 'drunken'.

Sharpwinner, another member of the Honkers' Union, emailed Sina on May 8, stating that after their successful attacks that day on over five major U. S. military and government sites, "it is time to withdraw our troops... we mourned our three martyrs and we have won the battle ... we should now cease the attacks or the people of the world will consider us troublemakers."

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**非常抱歉，
该版面内容丢失。**

PARK PAYS RESPECTS TO HISTORY

By Miao Yajie

Something of a stir was created on December 17 last year when the north-west corner of the old Imperial City was unearthed, with locals racing to the excavation site to catch a look.

The Imperial City will be especially respected in the construction of the Huangchenggen Park: the walls at the north and south entrance of Xianguang and Longhua streets will be rebuilt. The Dong'anmen site will be kept under glass in its full Ming Dynasty splendor. The park, most important of the nine projects in the 850 million yuan renovation of Wangfujing area, has been under construction for a month.

"We are not going to create fake historical constructs in the Wangfujing area," says preservation expert Wang Shiren. Wang, city planner Dong Guangqi and landscape engineer Tan Xin have worked together to create a park boasting of 1,800 magnolia and ginkgo trees, lilacs, wintersweet and Chinese roses, waterfalls, sculptures and 6,800 square meters of grass.

"This area boasts of relics from different times, such as the former residence of the famous writer Lao She, the former site of Beijing University, the Capital Theater, the Imperial City and so on.

"We would like to keep those buildings the way they used to be. When people stroll around, it'll be like entering a time tunnel. History will be truthfully represented, and it will remind people of the ancient Imperial City."

Huangchenggen Park runs 2.8 kilometers along the eastern walls of the old Imperial City. About 29 meters wide, it runs north from Chang'an to Ping'an Avenue.

From Ping'an, turn into Beiheyang Street and savor the charm of being in a city rich in imperial splendor. The modern capital grants common people an unusual chance to enjoy a very close, harmonious relationship with greatness, if never truly becoming a part of that greatness.

Hundreds of thousands of tourists flood into the city during the holidays, but Beiheyang seems asleep in the May Day morning sunshine. A few pedestrians saunter around here and there, obviously locals.

Daubed in the loud names of their



Mr. Cui, 78 years old, witnessed the changes of the site over 34 years.

Photo by Cui Jun

different travel agencies, luxury coaches crammed full of Chinese and foreign tourists speed southwards towards Chang'an.

Entering Huangchenggen Park on the left, new trees line the entrance area, but no laborer comes into sight until Donghua-men, where a dozen are busy cleaning up.

"Look at these ginkgoes," says Gao Zhenqing, foreman of more than 100 laborers from the Gardens Bureau of Dongcheng District. Tree planting began April 21. Most trees planted here were pre-grown. "Their diameters are all over 10cms. We don't have ginkgoes this size in Beijing. They were specially transported from Shandong and Jiangsu provinces."

The cost of the project includes compensation for 900 households of residents and 270 work units removed to other parts of the city.

Stroll past the Grand Hotel Beijing at the south entrance of Nanheyang Street, turning right, in a minute, plunge into the sea of Chang'an strangers' faces. The holiday hustle hits all the harder after the tranquility.

The old city was really three cities: the Forbidden City; the Imperial City, with its four gates of Dong'anmen (east), Xi'anmen (west), Tian'anmen and Di'anmen; and finally, the Outer City, which roughly accords with the Second Ring Road of today.

The Imperial City was first built during the Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368).

In 1403, Beijing was designated the future capital by Emperor Yong Le (1403-1425). Construction began in 1408 and was finished 13 years later. In 1415, Beijing officially became the capital of the

Ming Dynasty. Only government officials dwelt in the old Imperial City.

During the reign of Yong Le, the Imperial City of the Yuan Dynasty still existed. Walls were constructed during the reign of Emperor Xuan De (1426-36). The red walls, capped by yellow glazed tiles, stood about 6 meters high, 1.7 meters thick, and 2 meters deep beneath the surface.

The Imperial City remained mostly unchanged through the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), except for some minor repairs. No detailed records exist for when these walls were torn down. According to experts, it might be around 1924 that the east, west and north walls were demolished.

Nowadays, the northeast corner of the wall is on the main road of Ping'an Avenue; the southeast corner is right by the Grand Hotel and could not be unearthed.

Troupes Revive Badachu Park Fair

By Wang Lifang

Six famous troupes gathered for the opening ceremony of the third temple fair at Badachu Park in Beijing. It is said this is the first time in more than 50 years since the disappearance of folk performances at the park. They will perform for tourists.

Sui Shaopu, fair organizer, explained performances were originally imperial occasions like coronations, weddings and birthdays. It caught on with the masses during the Qing Dynasty (1644-1912).

Badachu has held annual temple fairs since the Qing Dynasty, and performances were reportedly very popular. The temple fair this year will see a five-tiger cudgel, flagpole waving, lion and dragon dance, land boat dance and yangge dances.

Worth mentioning is the yangge performance, dating back to 1737. Another is the five-tiger cudgel, with a history more than 100 years. This recounts vividly the story of the founding emperor of the Song Dynasty (960-1127) Zhao Kuangyin.

Fading Fahai Frescoes Saved



The Avalokitesvara with water and moon

By Miao Yajie

At the southern foot of Mount Cuiwei in the western suburbs of Beijing, a bruised but proud survivor of 500 years of vicissitudes is undergoing a long awaited and much needed face-lift.

Fahai Temple on Muoshikou Street, Shijingshang district, is famous for its four frescoes, bravely hidden and preserved during the Cultural Revolution. The frescoes stretch for 236.7 square meters of dazzling invention in the Shrine of Greatness and Magnificence.

Constructed with money collected by Li Tong, a favorite eunuch of Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) Emperor Yingzong (1436-1450), it took four years, eight months to finish Fahai in 1443.

The frescoes were completed by 15 imperial court painters including Zhang Ping, Wang Yi, Gu Xing, Li Yuan and Xu Fu. The emperor himself bestowed the temple with a horizontal board inscribed "Fahai Temple".

But today a new threat exists. "Now it's the tourists who are doing the most damage," says a temple administrator. "The carbon dioxide and moisture from their mouths is very corrosive on the murals. The light in the hall also erodes the colors."

With the fund from Beijing government, the frescoes will be reproduced and copies displayed in the Hall of Yaoshi. The originals will be closed from display to the public. The collapsed Hall of Yaoshi and the depository of Buddhist scriptures are under reconstruction.

Beijing Opera in English

By Zhu Lin

Though he's seen a number of Beijing Opera performances over the years, the Canadian Beijing Opera fan never fully understood the plot until recently, when the China Academy of Traditional Opera offered English dubbing for foreigners.

"It was the first time I've really understood an art form that I've loved for a long time," said the excited Canadian following the April 28 performance of the noted opera, "Legend of the White Snake".

Through earphones, the audience heard simultaneous interpretation of the four main characters' lyrics, delivered by two native English speakers and two Chinese.

"The interpreters did a very good job," said Zhao Jingbo, the assistant president of the academy, "They dub the lyrics with expression and emotion. All of them attended the performers' rehearsals to understand the opera better."

Zhao explained the significance of this experimental form of traditional Beijing opera. "Generally speaking, the

foreigners appreciate Beijing Opera through action and music rather than language. Therefore the deeper meaning in the lyrics, which tells more about Chinese culture, usually means less to them than that of the acrobatic fighting and actions. With simultaneous interpretation, our Chinese culture is fully conveyed."

Some twenty years ago, Beijing Opera was performed in English for the first time. And later, English transcripts were flashed on screens of traditional opera houses in Beijing.



Photo provided by Dai Tianping



The story of wukong

Part Of The First Chapter

By Jin Hezai

Sanzang (the Tang priest) and his three disciples, Monkey (Sun Wukong), Pig (Zhu Bajie), and Friar Sand, (Sha Seng), came to the end of the road. Ahead was a dense forest.

"I'm hungry, Wukong," said Sanzang, as he flopped down on a rock. "Go and find something for me to eat"

"I'm busy. Can't you find your own food?" asked Monkey, as he leaned on his club. "You have two legs of your own."

"You're busy? What are you doing?"

"Don't you think the sunset is beautiful?" Monkey asked, gazing at the sky. "I can survive the journey to the Western Paradise only by watching the sky everyday."

"You can watch the sky while you're looking for food, just don't walk into a big tree."

"I won't do anything while I'm looking at the sky."

"Sun Wukong," Pig chimed in, "you shouldn't speak like that. You shouldn't treat the bald-headed one that way or he'll starve to death; then we won't reach the Western Paradise, and we won't be able to rid ourselves of the curse."

"Bah, you have no right to speak, you pig's head."

"What did you say? And who are you calling a pig?"

"Not a pig, a pig's head, ha-ha-ha...."

"You even have the nerve to repeat it!" Pig yelled and rushed over, brandishing the club.

"What a row you two are making! I'm going to take a nap. Go somewhere else if you want to argue!" Friar Sand yelled.

The three looked at each other angrily.

"Fine, go on fighting. There'll be fewer of us if you beat each other to death," Sanzang said as he rose. "You are my masters, and I'll go to find food for you, alright? If I'm eaten by a monster, you can cry for me."

"Hurry up, a she-devil is waiting for you out there," said Monkey mischievously.

"Hum and haw," the three sneered.

"Don't think I can't do it without you!" Sanzang shouted over his shoulder, waving his fist at his disciples. He brushed the dirt off himself, rearranged his clothes, and turned toward the wood. He took one step and tore his robe.

"Ha-ha-ha....!" The three were helpless with laughter and forgot their quarrel.

The forest was a purple color and full of strange plants. It was shrouded

in black mist the year round. The deeper the four went into the forest, the damper and darker it became until the dense foliage finally blocked out the sky. Soon the monk was lost.

"What a fine place with so many living things!" said Sanzang, full of wonder.

"Thanks," came a voice from the woods.

Sanzang whirled around and saw a tree had spoken. Its eyes blinked in its purple trunk.

"Amazing. Life is wonderful. Let me touch you, you demon of the soil," said Sanzang, stroking the tree gently.

Purple juice oozed from the bark.

The tree liked to be stroked, and its thousands of branches began to sway.

"I've not been touched for ten thousand years. Ages ago, at least a couple of thousand years ago, a flock of monkeys played around on my body. Then they left, and I never knew where they went. At that time, I had no eyes. I only noticed that many living things could speak and sing and were moving around. I couldn't see them or move, but I was happy. Now, I have eyes, but I don't know where they went. I just don't know."

"They're dead," said Sanzang.

"Dead, what does dead mean?"

"Dead means one can neither see, hear, feel nor think, just like you before you were born."

"I don't want to be dead. I don't want to be alone."

"You may live a long time. You don't even have arms and legs yet. They will grow out later."

"It took me a hundred thousand years to get my eyes. I can't wait another hundred thousand years for arms and legs. I want to touch those of my kind; I want to touch you. I am enchanted by the smell of your body."

.....



Illustration from *The Story of Wukong*, Guang Ming Publishing House

Humanism Only Turned Up In The Cyber World

By Zhao Xia

I want the sky never to cover my eyes.

I want the earth never to bury my heart.

I want the masses to understand my ideas.

I want the gods to vanish completely.

The passionate words of the Tang priest, the main character of *The Story of Wukong*, the Monkey King, have stirred sympathy among readers since cyber-book debuted on the Internet a year ago and appeared in book form this February. According to Guang Ming Publishing House, which released the book, more than half a million young Chinese have read the story produced by a previously unknown gen-Xer.

Most of the book's fans aren't familiar with the name Zeng Yu, but his nom de plume, Jinhezai (which means, "where am I now?"), brings enthusiastic nods of recognition.

"Jin doesn't use perfect, polished sentences, and he doesn't have any professional training in use of language as most writers do," said Wen Jinghua, the book's editor. "But young people love his style."

Dialogue With Jin Hezai

A: Will foreigners be able to understand your novel, and will they accept this cultural backdrop?

S: I do not think they will have any problem understanding my novel, though the cultural barrier is there. The content of this novel is quite simple. They can understand my meaning.

A: Which character or story line do you like most in this novel?

S: I am not quite sure. Wukong (the Monkey King) and Sanzang (the Tang priest) are my favorite characters. I like Bajie (The Pig) as well. As for the story line, I love the part with Tianpeng and the goddess of moon and the one with Sanzang and the goddess of white dragon.

A: Did you have a special reason for writing this novel?

S: No, I had no particular reason for this novel. I just wanted to express a kind of feeling. The young people who grew up in the 1970s and 80s tend to express their own opinions.

A: Can you describe yourself in a few words?

S: Cool outside and hot inside.

I used to be a piece of ice with edges and corners, and a beautiful luster. Now I'm nothing but a pond of stagnant water. I became numb, losing my true self, and I don't know how to cry. I'm like Wu Kong, the Monkey King, idling time away day by day.

Shssss

Bluegas

Remarks From The Web-Surfers



Photo provided by Jin Hezai

I'm left with an empty feeling. Modern people don't have the problem of "Separate as death from heartbreak," and we lose all emotion after we are born. As a result, we have to decorate ourselves with emotions that don't belong to us at all. Actually there's nothing left in our hearts, neither can anything grow from within. I don't know what emotion is. If you know, please tell me.

Aa Wa Ri Gu Li

There is a group of people whose strange

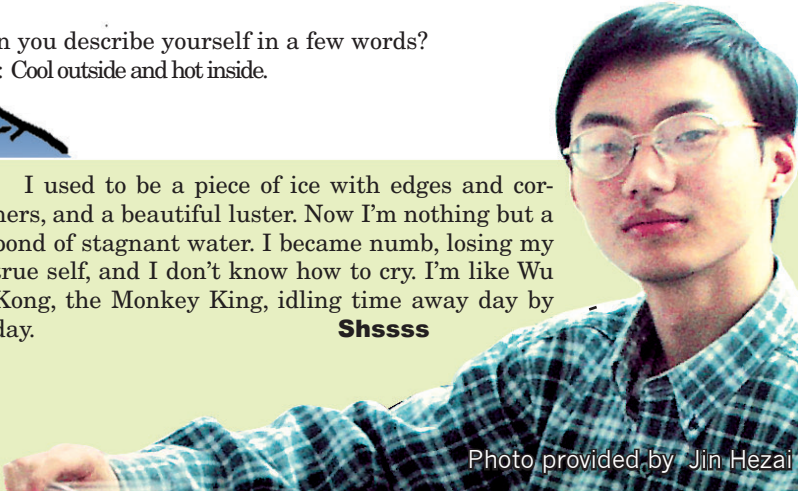


Photo provided by Jin Hezai



Photo provided by China Arts&Culture Co.Ltd.

Top Voice Arriving on the Olympic Day

By Zhu Lin

The world's three most-famous tenors, Carreras, Domingo and Pavarotti, will give their first joint performance in Beijing's Forbidden City on June 23 --- the International Olympic Day.

There are twelve grades of tickets, cheapest at \$60 and most expensive at \$2000. By the time of May 8th, only the tickets above \$380 bracket have been put on sale.

In April 23 press conference at the Forbidden City, China National Arts & Culture Co. Ltd. announced

it had authorized Ticketek HK Ltd., a ticketing agent of Sydney Olympics to manage the international ticket sales for the concert.

The organizing committee has opened 40 ticket sales outlets in Beijing. Concert-goers can also book tickets by telephone (8610-65546666).

On July 13th, the International Olympic Committee will decide on the hosting city for the 2008 Olympics--an honor Beijing hopes to claim. The Three Tenors' concert, jointly sponsored by the Beijing 2008 Olympic Bidding Committee, is considered an important part of the bidding effort.



Photo provided by FFUS. committee

Student Film Festival Catches Eyes

By Wang Lifang

"How many times have you experienced broken love?" The sharp question from an agitated Beijing University student to a young critic drew a burst of applause from the crowd debating the merits of the movie "Warm Summer," one of the entries of the recent Beijing Film Festival for University Students (FFUS).

Themed "Cheap Tickets, Best Movies", this year's FFUS ran from April 24 to May 9, with showings of 10 foreign and 29 contemporary Chinese films at China Films Archives and several universities.

"Warm Summer" was one of the most controversial movies on the FFUS schedule. It is a story of a taxi driver's complicated love affairs with several girls. As the comments grew more heated, the film's director, Ning Ying, coolly held back, observing with great interest the conflict of ideas between students." The arguing out of sincere searching and thinking is exactly what I want to hear," Ning said.

FFUS was founded in 1993 and has been held seven times since its inception. The event is held near May 4, Youth Day. Participating films are screened at China Films Archives and several universities in Beijing.

‘Raise the Red Lantern’ Ballet Charms Critics, Upsets Purists

By Zhao Xia

On May 2nd, one of China's most acclaimed movie directors, Zhang Yimou unveiled his ballet version of the multiple-award winning movie, "Raise the Red Lantern", at the refurbished Tian Qiao Theatre.

Ever since the China Central Ballet Theatre announced rehearsals earlier this year, "Raise the Red Lantern" has received hypercritical attention across the country. Zhang didn't understand ballet, they said.

But the hype and hoopla could all be set aside on stage where Zhang found an articulate, succinct voice for relating the tale of 1920s China.

Zhang himself had said as long as no one in the audience fell asleep, he would regard his first ballet production as a success. By his own standards, then, Zhang has a very palpable hit.

In this ballet, Zhang Yimou transfers his cinematic talents to the stage with unexpected ease. As the third concubine watches an acrobatic play, ballet and Peking Opera overlap. From the midst of all this, a dancer suddenly shouts "Let's play mahjong!" It rocks the audience. And not surprisingly, not everybody likes it.

"Zhang Yimou lacks even a rudimentary ballet knowledge," the classicists in the audience say. "His stage design is too extravagant. The characters express themselves in clumsy, superficial gestures, wallowing in a westernized contemporary dance theory."

It is the "mahjong dance" that especially upsets them. It pushes along the plot nicely, but afterwards overheard mutterings suggest it "spoils the art" of ballet, that it is "too vulgar to be acceptable".

Finally, the defence was found. "Zhang Yimou's cinematic direction style is very inspiring to our dancing circles," said a professional dancing scholar. "The story is so appealing that my eyes were glued to the stage the whole time because of my close concern for the characters' fate."

As a cultural phenomenon, Zhang Yimou's "Raise the Red Lantern" has launched a fresh train of thoughts through Chinese ballet.



Photo by Yuan Man/Xinhua



Photo by Jia Ting

Hui Si Xiang Big Shoe Store

By Wang Dandan

Anyone whose feet are larger than average will know just how frustrating it can be shopping for a pair of shoes, especially ladies.

Recently, I discovered a shop called Hui Si Xiang, not far from Xisi. To my great surprise, I found a wonderful array of fashionable shoes

in every color of the rainbow. And they had them in my size! The shop sells lady's shoes in sizes 9 to 11, or using Chinese measurements, 39 to 43. The shop has about 500 styles of shoes available for all seasons, and attracts many customers.

You will receive a card entitling you to a 5% percent discount the first time you shop there. When your accumulated spending comes to 1000 yuan, you will be given a 20% discount card. The shop also sets up customer profiles and if you wish, they'll inform you when a new range is available.

Cash only.

Bus: 102, 103,
109, 22 to Gang-
washi.

Tel: 66022537



photo by Chen Shuyi

Made In Paradise

By Li Yuan

"Made in Paradise" is owned by two brothers and their sister. Pick up any of the exquisite handmade amulets and decorations of Tibetan style on sale here, and the young proprietors will most likely tell you, "my

Dad made that." In fact most of the goods on sale in the shop were made by the three's father and mother, in their hometown Xigazi, Tibet.

Cash only.

Location: 41 Dashala Street, Qianmen Dajie (north side of Dashala Street, obliquely opposite Nei Lian Sheng Shoe Store)

Bus: 20, 54, 59,
66, 110, 803 or 819
to Dashala.

Subway: to Qianmen station (walk south down Qianmen Dajie and turn right into Dashala street)

Public transport is recommended, as parking spaces in this part of town are few and far between.

Tel: 13611307290



photo by Fan Xuedong

Sophie's Dining Room

By Jiao Pei

Close to the west gate of Chaoyang Park is a delightful little shop specializing in 'dining table culture'. Sophie's 'Dining Room' offers a range of tablecloths, hand painted china-ware and all kinds of decorations and knick-knacks for your table featuring traditional Chinese patterns.

A set of tableware including a brocade tablecloth and napkins fastened with traditional Chinese knots is one of the more popular items on sale. Sophie's also has a variety

of cushions, china-ware, lamps, candles, ashtrays, small hanging decorations, and, of course, Chinese knots. These string or rope knots are a traditional craft symbolizing propitious wishes.

Sophie, the owner, comes from Taiwan, and all the table-wares are designed by herself and made in Beijing.

Payment: Cash and credit cards.

Add: Sophie's Dining Room,
1 Nongzhanguan South Rd.
Chaoyang District
(south of the west gate of Chaoyang Park)

Tel: 65066386

Mobile: 13901065246

Business Hours: 10:00am -7:00pm



photo by Fan Xuedong

GREEN TIANSHI

By Wang Dandan

Green Tianshi (food from heaven) Vegetarian Restaurant, where smoking, alcohol, meat and even eggs are strictly forbidden, claims to be the purest and cleanest of all Beijing's vegetarian restaurants.

Every dish served here is a marvel. They are recreations of popular meat and seafood dishes, not only in appearance, but also in taste. Ingredients include bean protein, taro powder, mushrooms, various vegetables and bean curd.

They also have what is described as a "vegetarian" beer called Axinsa, a Sanskrit name meaning 'not to hurt lives'. It looks like real beer, and to a non drinker it probably tastes like the real thing, but it left me with a craving for a cold Yanjing. It's made from malt, hops and water, with a special technique employed to prevent the formation of alcohol during fermentation.

The Tianshi offers new



photo by Fan Xuedong

specials every week, so even regulars can find something different.

Payment: Cash, Cards (Master, Visa).

Location: 57 Dengshikou Street,
Dongcheng District
(opposite Tianlun Dynasty Hotel).

Bus : 108 to Dengshikou.
Tel: 65242476

Who Wants to Rent Apartments in the CBD?



By Jiao Pei

After establishing exactly what kinds of projects are planned for where in the CBD, the next thing that the investors are interested in is an analysis of the needs of the future residents. What kind of apartments do your target lessees want?

Lessees living in the CBD can be divided into two groups. One consists of the senior managers of foreign ventures around the World Trade Center (WTC) and the staff of foreign embassies. The other is made up of the staff of foreign ventures small companies that need the apartments for home and office, and the Beijing offices of some companies.

The needs of the two groups are basically the same in terms of infrastructure and services.

However the two groups have

some differences in demands. 1. Rental prices: Embassy staff account for the highest rentals. Rents can range from \$2,000 to \$5,000 a month. Senior managers of foreign ventures come into the same rental category as embassy staff, i.e., upwards of \$2,000 a month. Some smaller companies that rent apartments both for business and residence, and the senior employees of foreign ventures mostly choose apartments with an area of less than 150 square meters, with rent usually from \$1,000 to \$1,500. 2. Location, size and type of the rental apartment. The factors successively considered by senior employees of foreign ventures and embassy staff are: A. Location: the foreigners- approved apartments, which are close to companies and the diplomatic compound. Convenience in terms of traffic and transportation, and a measure of peace and quiet. B. Size: usually larger than 180 square meters. C. Price. D. Design: They require guestrooms and space for entertainment, comprehensive infrastructure: 24 hour hot water, satellite TV, etc.

The factors considered by the second group are price; this is the most important factor, and the location and type of the units.

CBD Unveiled

By Feng Cheng

The result of the public appraisal of plans for the Beijing CBD planning, judged by 11 world renowned architecture and urban-planning masters, was published in Beijing early April. Among them, the pro-gram presented by the American Tohonson Fain Partners won the first prize; The Japanese Urban Environment Research Institute and the American SOM Company got the second and third prize re-spec-

tively. The final decision on the Beijing CBD scheme will be made by the Beijing CBD Development and Administration Office based on the total eight award-winning plans.

Apartments will occupy 25% of the whole CBD area, including 2.5 million square meters in the central CBD. Up to now, a dozen of these projects have been under construction, attracting many canny speculators. Will you be one of them?

photo by Yang Tao

Beijingers are watching the CBD Proposals exhibits.

Regulations regarding foreign citizens letting their houses or apartments

By Li Yuan

When letting their houses or apartments, individuals of foreign nationalities, overseas Chinese and those from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan are required to pay 4 categories of taxes, namely, city real estate tax, business tax, personal income tax and stamp tax.

1. City real estate tax is calculated in accordance with the following formula:

Taxes due = the original value of the property $\times 1.2\% \times (1-30\%)$

The tax should be paid twice yearly, during the first fifteen days of April and October.

2. Business tax. 5% of the rent income shall be paid in business tax. A rent less than 800 yuan is exempt from business tax.

3. Personal income tax. A proportional tax rate is applicable here. 800 yuan shall be deducted from

the rent income as the cost for those whose rent income is 4,000 yuan or less, and 20% of the rent income shall be deducted for those whose rent income is over 4,000 yuan. The remainder is the taxable profit. Tax due = taxable profit $\times 20\%$

City real estate tax and business tax may also be deducted from the taxable profit on presentation of the tax receipts. The cost of renovations to the property may be deducted from the taxable profit if authentic receipts can be provided to show that the cost was borne by the tax payer. The deduction quota for renovations is 800 yuan on each occasion the tax is paid. The remainder of the cost may be deducted on subsequent occasions until the total of the cost has been deducted.

4. Stamp tax. If the tenant pays rent to run a business, both parties shall pay 1% of the rent income as stamp tax at the time the contract is signed. If the tenant pays rent for residence, he is exempt from the stamp tax.



Get a Cosy 'Home' in Beijing

By Xu Yan

To build a better home for the E-era expatriates in Beijing, China World Apartments are currently renovating the North Lodge (1 Jianguomenwai Avenue). All the materials used are of the highest quality, meeting environmental-protection standards. Apart from the very inviting and efficient room and kitchen designs, high-speed broadband Internet connection, luxury built-in kitchen appliances and fresh air intake are also incorporated.

Work now underway will be completed this May and leasing has begun.

There are 10 types of apartments available, including one-bedroom units (\$2,700 -3,000 /month), two-bedroom units (\$3,650 -5,450 /month), three-bedroom units (\$5,700 -7,000 /month), four-bedroom units (\$9,000 -9,500 /month) and luxury penthouses (\$10,500 -18,400 /month).

Substantial discounts will be given on lease agreements signed before the end of June 2001.

Tel: 65052288 ext. 80323.

WEEKEND

Saturday, 12, May
Clear, becoming windy.
Max: 29-30C.
Min: 17C.

Sunday, 13, May
Clear , becoming overcast.
Max: 26C.
Min: 17C.

NEXT WEEK

Monday, 14, May
Cloudy to clear.
Max: 25C.
Min: 12C.

Tuesday, 15, May
Clear.
Max: 23C.
Min: 10C.

Wed, 16, May
Clear, becoming cloudy.
Max: 27C.
Min: 12C.

Thur,17, May
Clear to cloudy
Max: 28C.
Min: 14C.

Friday, 18, May
Cloudy.
Max: 26C.
Min: 14C.



Air Quality
Forecast

Saturday 12 May:
Light breeze, moderate level
of suspended air articles.

Sunday 13 May:
Possibility of showers, low
to moderate level of suspended
air articles.



Musics&Films
South African Music

Hot tropical music from South Africa Captain Cultural Chorus will perform their special blend of hot tropical music on Wednesday, May 16th downtown in Wangfujing.

Address: Golden Sailing Music Hall, 24 Wangfujing Street, Dongcheng王府井大街金帆音乐厅
Bus: No.104, 108, 111. Get off at China National Art Museum
When: May 16th, 7:30p.m.
Tel: 6525 0615

Art Films at Sculpting Time

The cafe is located beside Peking University, near the Wangsheng Academy of Classical Learning. Art films are screened at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday, mostly French and Italian, with Chinese subtitles. You can enjoy a cup of coffee and snack while watching the movies. It's a great place to cuddle up with a lover and watch something romantic. English menu provided.

Address: 45 Chengfu Street, Haidian, Sculpting Time, take bus No. 801,808,375, get off at Tsinghua University.雕刻时光
Open: 10:30 am. -- 1 am.
Tel: 62521746

Meeting in Beijing

Music from American universities Get to the Poly Theatre as quickly as possible. The Second "Meeting in Beijing" Festival is now underway, and wonderful performances are being given every day by various American university symphony orchestras.

Address: Dongsishitiao, Dongcheng, Poly Theatre.保利剧场
Bus Routine: No.106 or subway, get off at Dongsishitiao

When: May 17th- June 1st
Tel: 65001188

Heineken Music Festival

This year marks the third Heineken Music Festival. Come and listen to a host of international and local celebrities performing some really wild music.

Address: Ritan Park, Embassy area, Jianguomenwai Avenue, Chaoyang (Ritan Gongyuan, Jianguomenwai Dajie, shiguan qu), take bus: No. 1, 4, 37, 57, 48, get off Ritan Street (Ritan Lu)日坛公园
When: May 12th, 13rd, 5:30pm. -11: 00pm.
Tel: 65886448 ext. 655

NRG & An Zaixu---- Hot South Korean Music

This is the second time they've visited Beijing since last year. South Korean pop music is the new sensation on the world pop music stage.

Address: Capital Gymnasium, Haidian. 首都体育馆
When: May 18th 7:30 pm.
Tel: 66037255 66037265



Restaurants

Xiang Ba La Tibetan Restaurant

Great food and friendly service, singing and dancing, even the cooks join in!

Address: 301 Beijing National Food Street, Bus: 332, 320, 904, 716 or 933 to Wei Gong Cun.
Tel: 68422631
Open: 9:00am to 21:00pm

Yan Rong Zhou Food Center

Yan Rong Zhou Food Center serves Dai Zu (one of China's minority nationalities) food. You do not have to leave Beijing to taste authentic Dai Zu food.

Address: B1 of Gong Mei Art Center in Wangfujing street. Bus 103 or 104 to Wangfujing.工艺美术服务部
Tel: 65288889
Open: 10:00 to 22:00

Bao Yue Bao Muslin Restaurant

Feel like a change from pork and chicken? Bao Yue Bao serves Muslim food, Beijing style. Tasty food and good service.

Address: 18 Tai Ping Qiao Da Jie, just opposite Zheng Xie Li Tang. Bus 7, 38 or 101 to Bai Ta Si stop.太平桥大街政协礼堂对面

Tel: 66169507

Open: 10:30 to 22:30



Bars& Cafes

Durty Nellies Irish Pub

The first Irish Pub in Beijing. Live music by "Hanging Garden" every Wed. and Thur., "Red Zebra" every Fri. and Sat. 60 European style dishes, reasonable prices.

Add: No.12 E. Building, South Sanlitun Bar Street, Chaoyang, take No.113 or 115 bus to Sanlitun

Tel: 65022808 fax: 65937545
www.durtynellies.com.cn

Minders Cafe

Live music by "Sound page" every night from 9:30 pm to 12:30 am. Disco every Fri. and Sat. Darts tournament on most Thursdays.

Add: No. 1 Houpingfang Xinyi Building, Gongti North Rd., Nansanlitun Chaoyang. Take bus 115, 113 or 402 to Sanlitun
Tel: 65006066, 65081196
Fax: 65081196
Open: Sun-Thur. 8:00am-2:00 am Fri-Sat 8:00 am-4:00 am
E-mail:minder2000@sohu.com

Schiller's Live Music Bar

Located in Chaoyang Park. B.B.Q. 88 yuan per person. On Sundays it's two for the price of one. Live music and disco on Fridays and Saturdays.

Add: West gate of Chaoyang Park. Walk east from Changhong Qiao and turn left at the second corner.朝阳公园西门
Tel: 6593 1078
Open :10:30 am.-2:00 am.
www.schillers.com.cn
E-mail: Office@schillers.com.cn

The Big Easy

From Monday to Friday, you can hear blues played by the Big Easy Jazz band.

(9:30 pm --1:00 am)

Add: Chaoyang Park, South Gate, Chaoyang District Take bus 805 or 302 to Chaoyang Park. 朝阳公园南门

Open:
Sun-Thur 5:00 pm--2:00a m
Fri-Sat 5:00 pm-3:00 am.
Tel: 65086776



Sports&Fitness

Century Massage Center

All the massage staff at the Century Massage Center are blind and have received professional training in special schools.

Address: Block 18, Guanghua Road Dong Li, Chaoyang. Take bus 28 or 120 to Guanghua Road.
Open: 12:00 - 4:00
Tel: 65070517

Hummer Bird Off-Road Auto Fan Club

A row of jeeps outside leads directly to a paradise for jeep fans!

Address: 1 Anding Road, Chaoyang, take bus 18, 358 or 328,



to Ao Ti stop奥体中心
Tel: 6495 0686
Open: 9:00 to 18:00

Mei Song Golf Club

This a Japanese designed Golf Club, just 5-minute drive from the China World Trade Center.

Tel: 8575 3959, 8575 5497
Five-minute drive east from China World Trade Center. 10-minute walk east from Si Hui Dong Subway station.



Outdoors

Feng Ning Ba Shang Prairie

Horse riding, grass gliding, off-road motorcycling, jeep driving, archery, axe casting, and glider flying . You can also enjoy song and dance performances by Chinese ethnic minorities.

Tel: 6238 2211 ext. 6439/6437, 82071493

Lilac Exhibition at Beijing Botanical Garden

More than 40 species of lilacs on display.

Address: Xiang Shan Nan Lu, Haidian District Bus: 318 from Pingguoyuan or 333, 360, 904 from Summer Palace and get off at Wo Fo Si. Walk north until you see the garden.
Open: 6:00 to 19:00
Tel: 6259 1283

Ancient Da Jue Temple shows at Yulan

Address: Xi Shan, Bei An He Xiang, Haidian District. Take bus 346 to Zhou Jia Xiang, then walk west for 20 minutes. Or you can take the tourism train No. 5 and 6 from Beijing West Railway Station at 7:12 every morning.

Open: 8:00 to 17:00
Tel: 6245 6162, 6245 6163

By Beijing Today Staff

Important
Phone Numbers

110	Police	24 hours
114	Phone nu. Enquiry	24 hours
117	Time	24 hours
119	Fire emergency	24 hours
120	Medical emergency	24 hours
121	Weather	24 hours
122	Traffic police	24 hours
180	Beijing Telecom	24 hours
2580	Flight Info	24 hours
2581	Air tickets	24 hours
65634432	BJ Railway Station	24 hours
63216253	BJ West Railway Station	24 hours
63030031	BJ South Railway Station	24 hours
65636223	BJ North Railway Station	7:00----19:30
2586	Railway tickets	9:00-----21:00
2850	Inquiry of cheques	24 hours
66189955	Plumber	24 hours
65130699	House moving	8:00-----17:45
2857	English program	24 hours

24 hour Drugstores
in Beijing

Xidan Drugstore	114 North Xidan Street (Xidan Beidajie)	66020730
Dongsì Drugstore	57 South Dongsì Street (Dongsì Nandajie)	65126808
Haidian Drugstore	70 West Haidian Street (Haidian Xidajie)	62566232
Tongrentang Drugstore	24 Big Railings of Qianmen (Qianmen Dashala)	63085413
Changchuntang Drugstore	28 Qianmen Street (Qianmen Dajie)	67027684
Shengjitang Drugstore	145 Xinei Street (Xinei Dajie)	62252463
(Baitasi)Drugstore	165 Fucheng Gate Inner Street (Funeidajie)	66160023

YOUR HIGH-TECH DAY

The fourth Beijing High-tech Week offers you the right places and precious opportunities to get the latest information about new science and technologies.

Here we schedule a one-day trip to important events of the high-tech week on May 12 for you.

Come on and enjoy your high-tech day.

by Jiang Zhong, Li Dan photo by Lounge



Important Events of the Week

What's new about intellectual property?

Forum on Protection of Intellectual Property of High-tech Achievements

May 11, 2001
9:00-18:00

Experts' talk on intellectual property protection in China.

The Hotel Newotani Changfugong

No. 26, Jianguomen waidajie, Chaoyang District, near Sai Te

What good ideas may we get from top business leaders?

Forum on Business Leaders of the World's Top Class Companies

May 11-May 13, 2001, 9:00-16:30

Business leaders from more than 30 giant business enterprises will participate in the Forum on Business Leaders of the World's Top Class Companies. They'll discuss the development strategy of China in the new century.

Great Wall Sheraton Hotel

No. 10, Dong San Huan Bei Lu, Chaoyang District

What will these guys demonstrate this year?

Private High-Tech Project

More than 100 individuals will show their high-tech achievements. There will be 46 display booths. The achievements include: Chinese medicine, new environmental protection materials, water cleaning and saving devices.

Address: the first floor of the No. 1 Hall and No. 2 Hall of Beijing International Exhibition Center.

No. 6 Sanhuan Donglu, Chaoyang District

Take bus No. 18, 302, 367 and get off at Jing An Li Stop

What wonders will Scholars Overseas show us?

Forum of High-tech Industries Development from Scholars Overseas

May 12, 9:00-17:00

A large amount of experimental projects of Scholars Overseas will be on show in the Forum of High-tech Industries Development from Scholars Overseas. The forum will cover Nano Technology, Bioengineering, Genetic Engineering, IE and Software Development.

Media Center
No. 11, Fu Xing Lu Yi, Haidian District, near the CCTV Building

Will Environmental Protection face new opportunities?

Forum on Environmental Protection

May 11-May 12, 2001, 9:00-16:30



8:30am-12noon, 1pm-5pm

Trade Talks on International Investment Projects

More than 30 delegations, investment banks, multi-national companies from the USA, Australia, EU and American and Japanese embassies will conduct trade talks with more than 200 Chinese domestic high-tech enterprises. The talks cover infrastructure, green agriculture, food processing and construction materials.

Beijing International Hotel

No. 9, Jian Guo Men Nei Da Jie, Dongcheng District, opposite Beijing Railway Station



9am-4:30pm

"Internet Time & Digital Life" Trade Fair (Zhongguancun IT Festival)

The important activities include: Seminar on Zhongguancun, innovative IT product promotion and demonstration and Opening Ceremony of Zhongguancun IT Festival.

National Agricultural Exhibition Center
No. 16, Dong San Huan Bei Lu, Chaoyang District May 11-May 13, 2001

Forum on environmental protection will play the most important role during this week. There will be themes like City Development and Environmental Protection (EP), Western Development and EP, Programme and Construction of Key Projects.

Beijing International Convention Center
No. 8, Bei Chen Dong Lu, Chaoyang District

Will Education via Internet takeoff?

2001 International Symposium on Education via the Internet in China

May 13, 9:00-17:00

This symposium will gather foreign and domestic famous universities, middle schools, educational organizations, hard and soft ware producers and investment agencies that have operated education via internet successfully. Scholars and experts will focus on problems of resource construction and cooperation between schools and enterprises in the development of education via the Internet.

Beijing International Hotel

No. 9, Jian Guo Men Nei Da Jie, Dongcheng District, opposite Beijing Railway Station

Who will buy achievements worth 400 million yuan?

Auction of China's High-tech Projects

May 12, 2001, 14:30-17:00
China International Auction of High-tech in Medicine and Hygiene

May 12, 2001, 19:30-21:30

Kun Lun Hotel
No. 2, Xin Yuan Nan Lu, Chaoyang District, take 403, 413, 405, then get off at Xiao Liang Ma Qiao Xi Zhan or Xiao Liang Ma Qiao Zhan

Will bio-medicine shake the High-tech Week again?

Bio-medicine Forum

May 13, 9:00-16:30

Experts and big medicine companies around the world will demonstrate the development of bio-medicine.

China Sci-Tech Museum

No. 3, Fu Xing Lu, Haidian District, near China Military Museum and the CCTV building

How will High-tech Week suggest to block the desert out of Beijing?

International Symposium on the Protection of Bio-diversity and the Application of High-tech

May 11-May 12, 2001
9:30-12:00, 14:00-17:00

Experts from England, the USA, Russia, and China will discuss environmental protection in West China.

Beijing Sci-tech Activity Center

No. 4, Xiao Ying Yu Hui Li, Chaoyang District.



2pm-5pm

Presentation and Trade Talks of Projects of "2001 Zhongguancun Entrepreneurship Business Plans"

Trade talks will be held among foreign and domestic investment companies, listed companies, investment organizations and the owners of 50 strategies for incepting business in Zhongguancun. From March 13, more than 260 strategies have been presented.

Jing Guang Center

Chaoyang District, take 403, 405, then get off at Hu Jia Lou



6pm-8pm

The World Science-tech Ads Movie Show

One hundred and fifty picked from more than 2,000 stunning advertising movies from 15 foreign countries, such as the USA, Germany, France and England, will be on display. An 80 minutes advertising movie show.

Century Theater

No. 40, Liang Ma Qiao Lu, Chaoyang District, 700 meters east to Beijing Yansha Shopping Center



A visitor to high-tech week examines the latest palm-top computer.

Photo by Jia Ting



9am-4:30pm

Exhibition of CBHT 2001

The exhibitions include:

Electronics & Telecommunications (Hall 1-1B)
Internet & Broadband Application (Hall 1-2A)
Environmental Protection & Energy (Hall 1-2B)
Pharmaceutical & Bio-tech Engineering (Hall 1-3A)
Capital High-tech Exchange (Hall 1-3B)
Private High-tech Project (Hall 1-3B)
China International Exhibition Center (Main Exhibition Hall)
No.6 San Huan Dong Lu, Chaoyang District, Beijing



2:30pm-5pm

Zhongguancun Advisory Meeting

Theme of the meeting: opportunities and challenges after China's WTO entry; how to increase the investment from big multinational companies. 19 members of the Advisory Committee will be present in the meeting.

Kempinski Hotel

No. 50, Liang Ma Qiao Lu, Chaoyang District, near Beijing Yansha Shopping Center



9am-11am

Presentation of Broadband Multimedia Information Platform and Typical Utilizing Cases

Introducing the problems of practical operation of Broadband projects, multimedia information platform, tendency of multimedia technologies and development of broadband network in Beijing. Discussion on cases of Beijing Telecom regarding broadband multi-media information platform construction.

9:00-16:30

Trade Talks on Financial Capital Transformations

Beijing International Convention Center

No. 8, Bei Chen Dong Lu, Chaoyang District

OTHER ACTIVITIES THROUGH THE DAY

May 11-May 13, 2001
8:30-12:00, 13:30-17:00

Exchanges Presentations on World Scientific and Technological Parks Construction & Development

Beijing Diao Yu Tai State Guest House
No. 2, Fu Cheng Lu, Xi Cheng District

May 11-May 12, 2001
8:30-11:30, 13:30-17:00

China Listed Companies Summit
Jingxi Hotel
No. 1, Yang Fang Dian Lu, Haidian District, near the CCTV Building

May 11-May 12, 2001
(8:30-12:00, 13:30-17:00)

May 13 (9:50-12:00)
International Forum on Micro-electricity
Beijing Xin Da Du Hotel
No. 21, Che Gong Zhuang Da Jie, Xi Cheng District

May 11-May 13, 2001
9:00-16:30

Presentation and Exhibition of Foreign Prestigious Sci-tech Universities 2001
The China Millennium Monument
Jia No. 9, Fu Xing Lu, Hai Dian District